



AN HONEST JUDGE

Always listens to all the evidence. Before you buy your Spring or Summer goods we want to place a few facts before you and then judge for yourself if you can do better than buy of us.

ARE YOU WILLING

to be convinced that you may be wasting money? Or are you like the old lady who was willing to be convinced, but would like to see the person who could convince her?

TO PAY THE PRICES

others ask is simply rank nonsense. It is paying a premium to greediness and emptying your purse to fill pockets bulging with plunder.

THAT OTHERS ASK

two prices is no reason why you should pay more than one, or that you should suppose that the two-price piratical plan is associated with every business.

WHEN YOU CAN

come into our store, handle our goods compare them in price and quality, and prove to your own satisfaction that we are living up to our claim of low price dealing, why don't you come?

G.T. LOWER PRICES

and save money. That's the idea. You can get them. If no other store offers them, our store does. Our war cry is "low prices." That's our bid for business.

AT OUR STORE

you will find as choice a display as ever you looked on. Nothing that belongs to a fine stock of Dry Goods is missing—except the usual exorbitant prices. Our prices are very low.

Bassett & Co.
WRECKERS OF HIGH PRICES

BOUGHT AT A SACRIFICE.

Large stock of
Baby Carriages, Steel Wheel
And Parasol Top Buggies as low as \$4.00.
Elegant Silk Plush lined buggies
With satin parasol in newest shades for \$7.00.
All handsome goods and standard make.
We make a specialty of
Hammocks, Croquet Sets,
And Fishing Tackle.

Bryan & Pandy



PETITION.

My little grandson, three years old, sleeps by my bedside every night. Through the long hours of dark and cold dreaming he slumbers lightly. He feels my love around him fold And in the heart repose. Upon his hair a gleam of gold, His cheeks like damask roses.

DARLING OF THE TROOP.

How She Lost a Wager for Captain Lonsdale.

She was the daughter of the trumpet major and the darling of the troop. Every one loved Phyllis Rayne. From the age of five she had been quartered with her father with the regiment.

"Our darling" has grown into a beauty," observed the adjutant, cheerily, as he rode past the group of men toward the object of interest.

"A letter for you," he said, in more official tones, dismounting beside the girl. "The colonel would be glad of an answer to-morrow."

The adjutant rode reluctantly away as Phyl broke the seal of the missive. After reading the contents the girl's dark eyes were humid. A quiver of disappointment parted her lips.

"Only that," she said beneath her breath. "Only my services! And I thought—"

What she thought was never uttered; her father came to the door of the bungalow.

"Capt. Lonsdale is waiting inside to speak with you. I've given him my word, dearie, although it will be like drawing an eye-tooth to part with my little girl."

As her father stepped outside Phyl flashed an angry glance at the captain.

"How dare you? I forbade you to speak to my father."

"Faint heart never won fair lady yet. I dare anything for the chance of winning you. I will have you, Phyl."

"Why do you hate me?" the captain continued, querulously. "I love you. I am willing to make you my wife, although you're not—"

"A lady," she interpolated quietly. A violin was lying on the table; the girl took it up, with the bow, fingering the instrument absently. Her mother had been of gentle birth; the insult of words implied stung keenly.

"You are so beautiful!" he cried, moving nearer.

The refrain went on jerkily from the violin; there was a suggestion of scorn in her action.

"Phyl! Have you no pity? Are you as hard as your face is tender? Is there anyone else?" The captain laid his hand on the arm moving the bow.

"Is there, Phyl?"

"You are hurting me, Capt. Lonsdale."

"What a soft little arm it is!" he said, drawing the loose blue sleeve away from her wrist. "See; the impress of my cruel fingers. Poor little arm!"

He bent his head suddenly, pressing his lips to the delicate flesh. A shadow fell across them as a figure stood in the open doorway. The girl's voice relieved the silence by a commingling.

"Good evening, colonel."

Capt. Lonsdale made a hurried departure, saluting his superior officer who remained in the doorway.

"May I come in?"

"Yes."

"Don't put that down. I can talk to you while you play."

The colonel leaned against the wall, watching Phyl as she rested her chin again on the violin.

"I can't," she cried, with a hysterical little laugh. "I think—I think you make me nervous."

"Never mind," he said, gravely, taking the instrument from her hands. "I have heard of your music. Who taught you?"

"My father. I'm proud of dad."

"The colonel smiled; the smile made his stern, ugly face almost handsome. The colonel was a widower with one child. People said his marriage had been a failure.

"You had my letter?" he asked as they moved out under the veranda.

"Yes."

"Are you willing?"

A moment's hesitancy, in which the colonel scanned the girl's face eagerly.

"Yes, I will go with you, colonel."

"Thank you. Little Jack will be so glad. There is no woman in the regiment he takes to but you."

The colonel was going to the hills for the hot waters.

"I understand. It will be my first situation."

"What do you mean?"

"You have asked me to go to Sims as companion or nurse to your child. You have forgotten to mention one thing—the salary."

he said. "Capt. Lonsdale has arranged a longer expedition. Shall you be frightened?"

"Frightened? No! What is there to fear?" she answered, brightly.

"Nothing. The servants are within call. I have forbidden them to leave the bungalow in my absence."

The trumpet major, riding behind the colonel, ventured a confidential remark:

"They make a handsome couple—my girl and the captain. He'll have you to be proud of his wife—eh, colonel?"

"His wife! Did you say his wife, Rayne?"

"Aye, colonel. I've promised her to Capt. Lonsdale, if he can win her."

"And—and Phyllis?"

The captain joined them and the party rode on.

Phyl stood at the door of the bungalow, a cloud on her face.

"I hate him! I hate him!" she muttered.

Toward midday the boy grew tired and fretful. Phyl, carrying him to her own bungalow, laid him on a heap of rugs in the corner. Once little Jack started up with a frightened cry, and to soothe him she sang an Indian lullaby, continuing the weird tune upon her violin at the boy's request.

Suddenly some indefinable instinct caused the girl to look over her shoulder, her hand tightening on the violin.

Between her and the sleeping child was a large snake, his head uncloaked himself to nearly his full length and risen upon his tail with elevated head and glittering eyes. It was the dread-dreaded cobra.

As Phyl gazed at the reptile, conclusions rapidly formed. The snake had been attracted by the music; it was evident by the darting forward of the cruel forked tongue that the fascination had ceased with the music.

With an almost imperceptible movement the girl drew her bow across the catgut. For an instant a palpable change came over the cobra; his eyes rested upon her with softened brightness. The charm that held the snake at bay was in her hands!

Again the Indian lullaby broke the silence, the refrain sounding strangely weird in its repeated cadence.

Once more the reptile was spellbound.

Phyl's back ached, her fingers felt cramped; a feeling of dizziness was overcoming her. If the exhaustion pervaded the chin would be broken. To rouse herself Phyl rose to her feet, continuing the melody to which the snake's head was swaying rhythmically.

Snapping!

A string flew asunder beneath the bow. The three strings now beneath Phyl's trembling fingers vibrated weakly; the discordances of their tones grated harshly upon her ear.

With gasping sob she glanced at the open door and back again at the sleeping child. The violin was slipping from her swollen hand. With an effort born of utter despair she broke into a song as the sound of the fallen instrument startled the cobra.

Gradually her eyes grew dim; her head sank lower and lower until it touched her bosom. She became unconscious that her voice was only weakly crooning. There was a rushing sound in her ears as of many waters, and above it all rose a childish cry, clear and sweet.

"Daddy! Daddy!"

Then it became quite dark.

When a few miles on the road that morning the colonel's horse had stumbled, slightly injuring his knee, and the rider determined to return, not sorry for an excuse to forego the expedition. The trumpet major's statement had filled him with fear.

At the trumpet major's bungalow the horse came to a sudden standstill. His ears set back and quivering in every limb.

A voice singing gayly reached the colonel; the air seemed filled with its laughter. He smiled sadly, then grimly. How happy was he! While he—The song was coming to an end; it grew fainter and fainter. Dismounting, he moved nearer to the open door of the bungalow and looked into the shadow of the room.

For one brief instant the colonel's eyes seemed filled with blood and through the crimson mist shone out his son's bright hair and the white face of Phyl.

In the next his hand was upon his sword and a cry went up as the girl tottered forward and his weapon fell upon the cobra.

The colonel's arm dropped heavily to his side as his sword clanged to the ground, his eyes distended with horror upon the severed parts of the snake.

At his feet was the prostrate form of Phyl. In one swift glance he noted the violin with its broken strings and the girl's stiffened hands. The whole truth flashed upon him in the instant.

With a great sob he raised her in his arms, kissing the still face passionately.

"Daddy!"

The colonel roused himself. Little Jack was standing beside him, his baby face full of awe.

"Go away, Jack," he said, hoarsely, as Phyl's white lids moved and a breath escaped her lips.

The colonel carried her to the rugs in the corner.

"Phyllis! Phyllis!"

As she met his eyes the terror slowly died out of her own. A deep flush crept into her face and faded.

"Phyl," he said again, "look at me, Phyl! Don't turn away. Oh, my love, he cried, 'my heart's love! You are given back to me. All my life I shall be grateful; all my life, dear."

The eyes of the woman were raised at last.

"I love you! I love you! I love you!"

"Who is that woman, Lonsdale, riding with the colonel?"

"Don't you know? Ah, you were ordered to another station before the dreadful news reached Lucknow."

"What news?"

"Of the colonel's unfortunate attachment. He married the daughter of our trumpet major."

"What Phyllis Rayne? Phew!" The subaltern screwed up his eyes, glancing sideways at Capt. Lonsdale.

"Is that Phyl, little Phyl, the darling of the troop? I remember her now; you were sweet on her yourself, old fellow. By the way, Lonsdale, I never heard of your two-mile swim up the Goomtee. Suppose you faked it?" Chicago Post.

—Be Careful. Bert—"I not only believe love to be a disease, but I regard it as highly contagious." Beattie—"How can it be caught?" Bert—"I have known the bacilli to be imparted by kissing."—Truth.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder

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THE COLOR OF GOLD.

It Varies According to the Part of the World the Metal Was Taken From.

"Most people suppose," says an assayer, "that all gold is alike when refined, but this is not the case. An experienced man can tell at a glance from what part of the world a gold piece comes, and in some cases from what part of a particular gold district the metal was obtained."

"The Australian gold, for instance, is distinctly redder than the Californian, and this difference in color is always perceptible, even when the gold is one thousand fine."

"Again, the gold obtained from the placers is yellower than that which is taken directly from quartz. Why this should be the case is one of the mysteries of metallurgy, for the placer gold comes from the veins. The latter gold is the redder found anywhere."

"Few people know the real color of gold, as it is seldom seen unless heavily alloyed, which renders it redder than when pure."

"The purest coins ever made were the fifty-dollar pieces that used to be common in California. Their coinage was abandoned for two reasons—first, because the loss by abrasion was so great, and secondly, because the interior could be bored out and lead substituted, the difference in weight being too small to be readily noticed in so large a piece. These octagonal coins were the most valuable ever struck."—Yankee Blade.

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